

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/766,541

Examiner

Linda L. Gray

Applicant(s)

ROBISON ET AL.

Art Unit

1734

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to papers filed 7-26-06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6,8 and 10-12.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
a further
9. ☒ Other See Continuation Sheet.

Continuation of Attachment(s) 9. Other: the drawings filed 1-28-04 are accepted by the examiner. A further Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

Claims 1, 10, and 12, Petry et al. teach a method and apparatus including applying seam tape 77 onto sheet of membrane 60 wherein tape 77 includes a pressure sensitive adhesive strip and wherein tape 77 is applied to a center portion of membrane 60 by pressing a second surface of tape 77 against membrane 60. Then membrane 60 is cut into two separate sheets by cutting completely through membrane 14 and through tape 77 along a center portion of tape 77 forming a continuous cut completely separating membrane 60 to form two totally separate sheets of membrane 60 each having a continuous portion of tape 77 along one edge. Tape 77 is covered on a first surface with a sheet (tape 77 = this substrate sheet plus adhesive which will be next to membrane 60). However, Petry et al. do not teach that the substrate of tape 77 is a release sheet and it would not have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have provided for such in Petry et al. because tape 77 is intended to remain tape 77 without the substrate of tape 77 separating from the adhesive after tape 77 is applied to membrane 60. Also, Petry et al. continues the process to make the article in Figure 1 where membrane 60 is then cut transversely such that the cut items therefrom can be bonded via the adhesive of tape 77 to an item that will become card 10 as demonstrated in Figure 5 such that Petry et al. do not teach rolling the two separate sheets since the two separate sheets are further cut and bonded into products that are not intended to be rolled.

Claims 1, 10, and 12, Foubert et al. teach a method and apparatus including applying a seam tape onto sheet of membrane 20 wherein the tape includes a permanent adhesive strip 9 and wherein the tape is applied to a center portion of membrane 20 by pressing a second surface of the tape against membrane 20. Then membrane 20 is cut into two separate sheets by cutting completely through membrane 20 and through the tape along a center portion of the tape forming a continuous cut completely separating membrane 20 to form two totally separate sheets of membrane 20 each having a continuous portion of the tape along one edge. Adhesive 9 is covered on a first surface with sheet 8. However, Foubert et al. do not teach that the substrate 8 of the tape is a release sheet and that adhesive 9 is pressure sensitive adhesive and it would not have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have provided for such in Foubert et al. because the tape is intended to remain the tape without the substrate 8 of the tape separating from the adhesive 9 after the tape is applied to membrane 20 and the adhesive 9 is intended to permanently bond the tape to membrane 20. Also, Foubert et al. continues the process to make the two articles in Figure 3 where membrane 20 is then cut at various locations to form areas such as 90 such that the cut items therefrom can be folded as seen in Figure 4 such that Foubert et al. do not teach rolling the two separate sheets since the two separate sheets are further cut and folded into products that are not intended to be rolled.

Claims 1, 10, and 12, Gohr teaches a method and apparatus including applying a seam tape 18 onto sheet of membrane 24 wherein tape 18 includes a permanent adhesive strip and wherein tape 18 is applied to a center portion of membrane 24 by pressing a second surface of tape 18 against membrane 24. Then membrane 24 is cut into two separate sheets by cutting completely through membrane 24 and through tape 18 along a center portion of tape 18 forming a continuous cut completely separating membrane 24 to form two totally separate sheets of membrane 24 each having a continuous portion of tape 18 along one edge. The adhesive of tape 18 is covered on a first surface with sheet substrate. However, Gohr does not teach that the sheet substrate of tape 18 is a release sheet and that the adhesive is pressure sensitive adhesive and it would not have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have provided for such in Gohr because tape 18 is intended to remain tape 18 without the sheet substrate of tape 18 separating from the adhesive after tape 18 is applied to membrane 24 and the adhesive is intended to permanently bond tape 18 to membrane 24. Also, Foubert et al. continues the process to make the two articles 20 in Figure 6 where membrane 24 is then cut transversely such that Gohr does not teach rolling the two separate sheets since the two separate sheets are further cut into products 20 that are not intended to be rolled.

Other art of record: Denki teach pressure sensitive adhesive tape cut down the center before the tape is bonded to an article. For the other independent claims and these references, see the reason for allowance in a previous Office action.

Linda L Gray
LINDA GRAY
PRIMARY EXAMINER